My dear Maria Rome 28th Sep. 1870

You'll have been alarmed about me in the siege of Rome on the 20th inst but I am glad to tell that all has gone well & I am well & in perfect safety – On the night of the great illumination the Romans came to me in great numbers to express to me their respect & affection

The city is gay & the Romans very contented – There cannot be a doubt the Popery is down for ever as Rome is to be the Capitol of Italy

I am afraid I may be a great sufferer in the change as I lose half my income in the Consulate of Italy now about to finish – & for the others

the English Ambassador will reside here
also my English Consulate will also be at
an end — Will the P. O. grant me a pension
is very doubtfull; tho' at my age & having
the Prime minister for a friend may aid me
Nothing is yet settled, — meanwhile I have got
over my rheumatism & am almost ready to
take the Bull by the Horns. — General Cadorna
who is in command has shown me great kindness
of the Cardinals as yet I have not seen one; 'Tis
thought the Pope will remain Spiritual head
of the Church but the Romans are furious
against him — his foreign troops have been all
sent away to their homes — In Rome nothing is
to be changed — the joy of the people is not to be
described as having got rid of the Priests
The change in my position may yet be some
time in coming off — How fortunate that dear
Eleanor is well provided for — I shall have
still as my own the interest on the 50 shares
of the Marcian water which may be £100 a year
my wants are few — I hope this will find better &
poor Tom also mending like me — You'll write
me a full true & particular as usual
your loving brother Joe

Now my Italian Consulate is gone. I am reduced to
half with one Sec.ry who has £80 a year my man
servant £36 - Woman of all work £12. Washing
£30.0 my rent is £80 - in great haste
Maria £40

Your loving brother
Joe